

MORE ABOUT OPERA RARA & FANTASIO

Opera Rara's endeavours to recreate the neglected operatic and song repertoire of the 19th century make a unique contribution to musical life.

Outstanding scholarship, an investigative musical curiosity, a commitment to performing brilliance, and the very best recording techniques mean that undiscovered works come to life at home and in the concert hall.

Opera Rara has a catalogue of well over 100 titles; 50 of these are full-length recordings and the remainder an indelible record of the riches of 19th century opera and song. The complete catalogue is available as digital download and in CD format.

SHOWCASE



To find out more about Opera Rara visit opera-rara.com or to get a flavour of the wonderful sound-world we recreate, buy or download our new Showcase CD. Celebrating our recent work we present a selection of excerpts for everyone to enjoy. 12 tracks have been specially chosen to present a selection of great arias and ensembles and to give listeners a taste of the gems that lie hidden within the operas themselves. Ranging from early Rossini to late Donizetti they also include samples from the French repertoire – Massenet and, of course, Offenbach.

This Showcase CD, which is only available from Opera Rara, has a special purpose – to help us continue our work. The CD costs £20 or download £15 and is produced as part of our programme to raise much needed funds. So not only will your purchase bring you an hour's sheer enjoyment, it will help secure our future.



Jacques Offenbach

FANTASIO

OPERA RARA RECREATES
OFFENBACH'S DAZZLING
ROMANTIC OPERA

Fantasio, considered one of Offenbach's most beautiful and refined works is a heady cocktail of charm, gracefulness and gentle melancholy, of bad-tempered jokes and poetry, marking Offenbach's crucial step on his way towards *The Tales of Hoffmann*.

It is among the least known of Offenbach's lyric works, having been almost totally ignored since its very brief run in Paris in 1872. Opera Rara intends to put this right with its studio recording and concert performance using a brand new performing edition of the complete work by music publishers Boosey & Hawkes (edition Keck).

The action takes place in a fairy-tale Munich, between the royal residence and the university, with its liberal-minded students. A young and beautiful princess is set to marry a prince she has never met. Fantasio, in love with the princess, happily seizes the occasion to dress as a jester in order to help and be near her. He climbs the park wall in his disguise and disappears into darkness, towards adventure...

The complete Opera Rara catalogue is available as CD and digital download from:
opera-rara.com *Buying direct supports our work*

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*Opera
Rara*

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OPERA RARA AUTUMN 2013 EVENTS



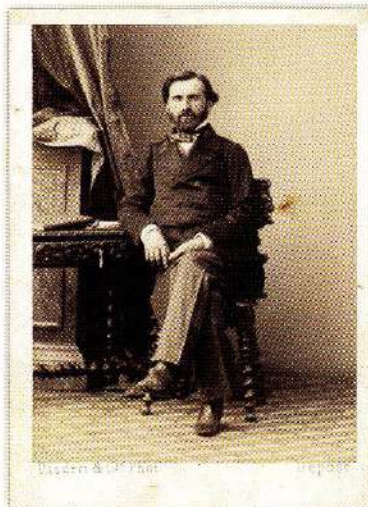
Gioachino Rossini

19TH CENTURY OPERA GOES GLOBAL

**Wednesday 30 October
6.30pm**

Opera Rara Music Library
134-146 Curtain Road,
London, EC2A 3AR

Dr Benjamin Walton, Senior Lecturer in Music at the University of Cambridge. Benjamin Walton's talk will look at the rapid spread of bel canto operas beyond Europe before 1850, often within a few years of their European premieres. To explore how this took place, he will focus in particular on the remarkable example of the first operatic troupe to go all the way around the world, performing operas by Rossini and others in locations from Buenos Aires to Calcutta.



Giuseppe Verdi

21ST CENTURY VERDI

**Wednesday 27 November
6.30pm**

Opera Rara Music Library
134-146 Curtain Road,
London, EC2A 3AR

Roger Parker, Professor of Music at King's College London, talks about the significance of Verdi in the 21st century. Repertoire Consultant to Opera Rara and recipient of the "Premio Giuseppe Verdi" in 1985, Roger Parker is author of 'The New Grove Guide to Verdi and His Operas'.



Jacques Offenbach

FANTASIO

Sunday 15 December
Opera Rara at the Royal Festival Hall
- in partnership with OAE

Cast

Sarah Connolly.....**Fantasio**
Marlis Petersen.....**Elsbeth**
Russell Braun.....**Le Prince**
Brindley Sherratt.....**Le Roi**
Neal Davies.....**Sparck**
Victoria Simmonds.....**Flamel**

Opera Rara Chorus

Renato Balsadonna, Chorus Director

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

Sir Mark Elder, conductor

6.00pm – An introduction to Fantasio

Free pre concert talk open to all ticket holders

7.00pm – Concert performance

UK premiere performance of one of Offenbach's most delightful works

For more about Fantasio see reverse

Talks are £15.00 per person, including a glass of wine

To book your place email: info@opera-rara.com or call +44 (0)20 7613 2858

Visit opera-rara.com to find out more

Tickets £38 £24 £9 Premium £60

Limited concessions available
visit southbankcentre.co.uk